

Utah Valley University  
Dental Hygiene  
2023 Program Bulletin

***The UVUDH Application Cycle runs from September 1<sup>st</sup> to February 1<sup>st</sup> of each academic year. Students may discuss admission criteria with academic advisors prior to applying. Academic Advisors are knowledgeable regarding pre-requisites and deadlines. However, UVUDH reserves the right to alter deadlines and/or application criteria each year. It is the applicant's responsibility to apply using the current year's application criteria.***

Admission/Application criteria stated in this bulletin replaces all previously published and previous web-based admission/application criteria for earlier years.

**Program:** The Dental Hygiene Program is an accredited two-year program leading to an Associate in Applied Science degree. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates must pass national, regional and board examinations to apply for a license and become a practicing dental hygienist. UVU also has a BS Completion degree for students who have graduated from an accredited AAS Dental Hygiene program. For information on this, please contact Shalece Nuttall at [shalece.nuttall@uvu.edu](mailto:shalece.nuttall@uvu.edu).

For students interested in the Dental Hygiene Program, contact the Pre-Professional Advisement Center (PPAC) at 801-863-6484 or email [ppac@uvu.edu](mailto:ppac@uvu.edu). The PPAC is located in the Faculty Annex (FA 314) and they see students by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, visit: <https://www.uvu.edu/ppac/predentalhygiene/>.

**Class Size:** Twenty students are admitted annually.

**Program Learning Outcome #1: Patient Care**—UVUDH graduates will be able to execute all steps in the dental hygiene process of care.

- 1.1 Perform a comprehensive patient assessment and utilize critical decision-making skills to construct and document a dental hygiene care plan for all types of patients based on data collected.
- 1.2 Perform and document comprehensive patient care and evaluation to promote patient health and wellness for patients of all ages, cultures and disease status including those with special needs.
- 1.3 Research and critically analyze published reports of evidence-based literature and apply this information to the practice of dental hygiene during patient care.
- 1.4 Communicate and interact effectively with diverse populations, members of the community and other health care providers.
- 1.5 Provide appropriate life support measures for medical emergencies that may be encountered in practice of dental hygiene.

**Program Learning Outcome #2: Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct**—UVUDH graduates will be able to apply a professional code of ethics which complies with Federal and State laws.

- 2.1 Apply a professional code of ethics and conduct to all aspects of dental hygiene.
- 2.2 Comply with state and federal laws, recommendations and regulations, governing the practice of dental hygiene.
- 2.3 Demonstrate responsibility and accountability for actions within the various roles of the dental hygienist according to defined standards, regulations, and policies.
- 2.4 Recognize one's obligation to take action to enhance the health, welfare, and interest of a diverse society.

**Program Learning Outcome #3: Community Service**—UVUDH graduates will be able to provide health promotion and education services in public health and alternative settings.

- 3.1 Administer oral health services in a variety of community settings while providing cultural care.
- 3.2 Assess, plan, implement, and evaluate community based oral health programs utilizing the oral health needs of the community.
- 3.3 Utilize interprofessional partnerships to encourage health promotion and disease prevention within the community.

**Program Learning Outcome #4: Graduation and Promoting the Dental Hygiene Profession**—UVUDH graduates will be able to successfully graduate and affiliate with professional organizations.

- 4.1 Successfully complete all requirements and courses needed for graduation for an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Dental Hygiene.
- 4.2 Advance the profession through service activities and affiliations with professional organizations.

**Program Learning Outcome #5: Life-long Learning and Education**—UVUDH graduates will be able to perform self-assessment for professional growth and lifelong learning.

5.1 Pursue continuing education for life-long learning and professionalism in providing quality evidence-based care.

5.2 Continuously perform self-assessment for professional growth and lifelong learning.

**Admission/Application Requirements to the Dental Hygiene Program:**

1. **Pre-Requisite courses: Applicants must complete all of the following Dental Hygiene Program pre-requisite courses with a final grade of C or better by the application deadline:**

- A. **ENGH 1005\*** or Literacies and Composition Across Contexts (5 cr)  
**ENGL 1010\*** Introduction to Academic Writing (3 cr)
- B. **CHEM 1110\*\*** Elementary Chemistry for the Health Sciences (4 cr) \*\*UVU co-req/pre-req MAT 1015 or higher
- C. **ZOOL 2320\*\*** Human Anatomy (3 cr) \*\*UVU pre-req is ENGH 1005 or ENGL 1010
- D. **ZOOL 2325\*\*** Human Anatomy Lab (1 cr) \*\*UVU pre-req is ENGH 1005 or ENGL 1010
- E. **ZOOL 2420\*\*** Human Physiology (3 cr) \*\*UVU pre-req is BIOL 1610 & CHEM 1110
- F. **ZOOL 2425\*\*** Human Physiology Lab (1 cr) \*\*UVU pre-req is BIOL 1610 & CHEM 1110

**The following courses can be taken after applying but must be completed upon starting the program:**

- G. **STAT 1040 or 1045, MAT 1030 or 1035, or MATH 1050 or 1055** Statistics (3 or 5 cr) or Quantitative Reasoning (3 or 6 cr) or College Algebra (4 or 5 cr)
- H. **COMM 1020** Public Speaking (3cr)
- I. **SOC 1010** Intro to Sociology (3 cr)
- J. **PSY 1010** General Psychology (3 cr)
- K. **MICRO 2060** Micro. for Health Professions (3 cr) \*\*UVU pre-req is BIOL 1610 & ENGH 1005 or ENGL 1010
- L. **MICRO 2065** Micro. for Health Professions Lab (1 cr) \*\*UVU pre-req is BIOL 1610 & ENGH 1005 or ENGL 1010

Overall GPA and GPA from pre-requisite courses will also be weighted in candidate selection.

\*You cannot take this course more than TWICE for the admission requirements. If you take this course twice, we will use the grade from the SECOND TIME for admission points. Note: Some of the Dental Hygiene pre-requisites have pre-requisites. Please consult the current UVU catalog or the Dental Hygiene Curriculum Plan listed at the back of this bulletin for a list of those pre-requisites.

+CHEM 1110, ZOOL 2320/2325, and ZOOL 2420/2425 MUST have been taken within SEVEN years of applying. If these courses are more than seven years old, a student is able to retake them and the grade will count as their first chance.

2. Applicants who are not already a UVU student must apply to and be accepted to UVU. To apply, please visit the Admissions website at <https://www.uvu.edu/welcome/>. To apply for UVU scholarships, students must be a UVU student and have a UV ID number. (This process can take up to 3-4 weeks, so please do this prior to the Dental Hygiene Application date if possible.)
3. **Completion of the Health Science Reasoning Test:** Applicants must take the Health Science Reasoning Test given at UVU's Testing Services Department or another proctored site. The test must be taken between September 1, 2023 and January 31, 2024. The HSRT costs \$28.50 and takes approximately one hour. **The HSRT is a timed test.** Please contact the UVU Testing Services Department at 801-863-8269 or email them at [testingservices@uvu.edu](mailto:testingservices@uvu.edu) for any additional information about the test. **You must bring a voucher and photo ID when taking the test.** The voucher must be picked up from the Pre-Professional Advisement Center prior to taking the test. Please call 801-863-6484 to set up an appointment to pick up the voucher. For information on how to have the HSRT proctored near you, please email Adam Black at [blackad@uvu.edu](mailto:blackad@uvu.edu) or Emily Hill at [emilyh@uvu.edu](mailto:emilyh@uvu.edu). You may take the test **ONE TIME** during the above period. We will not consider scores on the HSRT taken during other application years. The HSRT measures high-stakes reasoning and decision-making processes. The HSRT is specifically calibrated for trainees in health sciences educational programs (undergraduate and graduate) and for professional health science practitioners. Scores on this instrument have been found to predict successful professional licensure and high clinical performance ratings.

4. **Verification of Observation Form:** Before applying to the program, students must submit documentation of 25 hours of observation of a practicing dental hygienist **OR** complete 250 paid Dental Assisting hours IN-OFFICE with ADULT PATIENTS in a periodontal and/or general dentistry practice. This form can be downloaded from our website at <https://www.uvu.edu/dental/prerequisites.html>.
5. **Two separate Letters of Reference** written by either an employer/supervisor or academic instructor which include:
  - a. A paragraph or sentence that explains how you know this person
  - b. An evaluation of the person and their skills/accomplishments/character traitsThese letters need to be in a sealed envelope from the person who is writing the reference and mailed to:  
  
UVU Dental Hygiene Program Advisor, MS 314  
Attn: Shalece Nuttall  
800 West University Parkway  
Orem, UT 84058
6. **Complete a 2-page essay** (double spaced, 12 point font) that tells us about yourself and what would make you a good candidate for this program. **It is important to discuss the service opportunities you have participated in.**
7. An application fee of \$50 is due at the time of application, made payable to UVU Dental Hygiene or paid online when completing the online application.
8. Official transcripts in a sealed envelope must be sent **directly to the Dental Hygiene office** at address listed above. Official electronic transcripts are also accepted and can be sent to Shalece Nuttall at [shalece.nuttall@uvu.edu](mailto:shalece.nuttall@uvu.edu). Please DO NOT send your transcripts to the UVU Transcript Office!
9. Selected candidates will be required to pass a background check.

#### **Admission/Selection Procedure:**

Students must complete the Dental Hygiene Program Application. This can be found on the Dental Hygiene website at [www.uvu.edu/dental/](http://www.uvu.edu/dental/). **All application materials (application, transcripts, HSRT scores, Clinical Observation Verification, letters of reference, and application fee) must be received by the Dental Hygiene Program by 4 pm on February 1, 2024. Only completed applications will be considered for admission. To be complete, all transcripts and test scores must be official and in sealed envelopes.** If possible, please hand-deliver all materials directly to Shalece Nuttall in KB 227D. If you need to mail any materials, please send them to:

UVU Dental Hygiene Program Advisor, Mail Stop 314  
Attn: Shalece Nuttall  
800 West University Parkway  
Orem, UT 84058

It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure that their application file is complete and has been received before the deadline. You may call the Dental Hygiene Academic Advisor, Shalece Nuttall, at 801-863-5582 to check if certain application materials have been received. Advanced planning and submission of materials early in the application period is strongly encouraged. Deadlines will not be extended for individual applicants.

Applicants are reviewed by number only, not by name, for computation of points. The top 35 candidates will complete a video submission to the committee for review. The top 20 applicants will then be admitted into the program. Upon acceptance into the program, a NON-REFUNDABLE \$500 deposit will be due to hold the applicant's spot in the program. Once registered in courses, this deposit will go toward the applicant's student fees the first semester. All applicants will be notified by mail as to whether or not they were admitted into the program. In the event that one of the top twenty students originally selected declines the offer, the next applicant with the highest points will be offered admission. Applicants not admitted must re-apply for the next application period and compete with a new pool of applicants. If re-applying for the following year, the applicant must re-submit all supporting documents. There is no waiting list for this program.

**Program Costs:** The following is an **estimate** of the costs for the 2023-24 school year:

**First Year Expenses:**

Dental Hygiene Special Fee:	\$6,350
UVU Tuition	\$6,270*
Dental Hygiene Instruments	\$1,300
Uniforms	\$100
Books	\$400
Dental Loupes	\$1,200
Laboratory Fees:	
Fall Semester	\$73
Spring Semester	\$234
First Year Estimate:	<b>\$15,927</b>

**Second Year Expenses:**

Dental Hygiene Special Fee:	\$6,350
UVU Tuition	\$6,270*
Dental Hygiene Instruments	\$420
Uniforms	\$100
Books	\$400
Laboratory Fees:	
Fall Semester	\$63
Spring Semester	\$63
Second Year Estimate:	<b>\$13,666</b>

**TOTAL ESTIMATE: \$29,593**

\*Tuition costs are based on the UVU 2023-24 tuition schedule. See the UVU catalog for more information. Dental Hygiene special fees are in addition to regular tuition fees paid by all students.

**National and Regional Board Exams:** To become a practicing dental hygienist, all students must take and pass these board exams and be licensed by the state they wish to practice in. All applicants are encouraged to contact the state(s) Dental Hygiene Licensing Boards to be fully aware of the price and specific licensing requirements. This will cost approximately \$2,200.

**Professionalism:** Professionalism is an integral part of being a dental hygienist. One of the principles of The American Dental Hygiene Association Principle of Ethics is “to maintain high standards of personal conduct.” Furthermore, as part of the Dental Hygiene oath you promise to “uphold the highest standards of professional competence and personal conduct...”. The Dental Hygiene Program expects professional conduct at all times. Therefore, any serious lapse in professional conduct by an applicant during the application process could make the applicant ineligible to be considered for the program for that year, and future years. Once accepted, each student will be judged on their professional behavior during the program, until the time of their graduation. Any serious lapse in professionalism could mean dismissal from the program.

**Please Note:** The Dental Hygiene Program is challenging academically and requires considerable time on and off campus and at clinical sites. Some dental hygiene clinical experiences may be scheduled in the evenings and on weekends. There may be a limited number of classes or other teaching/learning experiences scheduled outside the pre-set classroom/clinic times printed in the UVU Fall or Spring schedule. **You will be required to attend these experiences.** The times for classes and clinical experiences vary from semester to semester. Students will provide patient care in the program’s clinic setting and affiliated facilities. **While voluntary patients come to the clinic for treatment, students will have to provide their own patients for part of their clinical experiences. Students are ultimately responsible for obtaining their own patients to complete their requirements.**

**Accreditation:** The Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has been granted the accreditation status of “approval without reporting requirements”. The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Commission of Dental Accreditation can be contacted at (312) 440-4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611.

## Curriculum Plan for the Associate in Applied Science Degree in Dental Hygiene

For students doing all coursework at UVU. Courses requiring pre-requisites should not be taken until pre-requisites have been met. Pre-requisites cannot be taken concurrently with courses requiring the prerequisites.

### Pre-requisite Courses for Program Admission (32 Credits)

#### The below courses must be taken before applying:

ENGH 1005	Literacies & Comp Across Contexts	_____	5
<b>or</b>			
ENGL 1010	Intro to Academic Writing	_____	3
CHEM 1110	El. Chem. for Health Sciences	_____	4
ZOOL 2320/2325	Human Anatomy/Lab	_____/_____	4
ZOOL 2420/2425	Human Physiology/Lab	_____/_____	4

#### Required pre-reqs to pre-requisite courses:

Appropriate placement score
Appropriate placement score
MAT 1015 or equivalent (can be taken as a co-req)
ENGH 1005 (5) or ENGL 1010 (3) (C or >)
BIOL 1610 (4) & CHEM 1110 (4) (C or >)

#### Must be taken before program:

STAT 1040/1045	Intro to Statistics	_____	3/5	MAT 1015 (5) or 1010 (4) (C or >) or placement
<b>or</b>				
MAT 1030 or	Quantitative Reasoning	_____	3	MAT 1020 (4) or 1015 (5) or 1010 (4) (C or >) or placement
MAT 1035	Quantitative Reasoning w/Alg.	_____	6	MAT 0980 (5) or 1020 (4) (C or >) or placement
<b>or</b>				
MATH 1050/1055	College Algebra	_____	4/5	MAT 1015 (5) or 1010 (4) (C or >) or placement
COMM 1020	Intro to Public Speaking	_____	3	
SOC 1010	Intro to Sociology	_____	3	
PSY 1010	General Psychology	_____	3	
MICRO 2060/2065	Micro. for Health Professions/Lab	_____	4	BIOL 1610 (4) & ENGH 1005 (5) or ENGL 1010 (3)

### Required AAS Program Course Work (56 Credits)

#### Fall Semester – Year 1

DENT 1010	Dental Hygiene I	3
DENT 1015	Dental Hygiene I Clinic	2
DENT 1020	Oral Anatomy & Physiology	4
DENT 1070	Medical Emergencies	2
DENT 1050	Radiography	1
DENT 1055	Radiography Lab	<u>1</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>

#### Spring Semester – Year 1

DENT 2020	Dental Pharmacology	3
DENT 1040	Dental Hygiene II	3
DENT 1045	Dental Hygiene II Clinic	3
DENT 1030	Dental Materials	2
DENT 1060	Oral Pathology	<u>2</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>

#### Fall Semester – Year 2

DENT 3010	Dental Anesthesiology	3
DENT 3015	Dental Hygiene III Clinic	4
DENT 3030	Periodontology	3
DENT 206G	Oral Public Health	3
NUTR 1020	Foundations of Nutrition	<u>3</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>16</b>

#### Spring Semester – Year 2

DENT 3040	Dental Hygiene IV	2
DENT 3045	Dental Hygiene IV Clinic	4
DENT 3050	Dental Hygiene Seminar	1
PHIL 2050 or 205G	Ethics and Values	<u>3</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>

*\*It is strongly advised to try and take the non-DENT classes before the start of the program, if possible.*

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For further information on applying to the Dental Hygiene program, contact our Advisor, Shalece Nuttall, at 801-863-5582 or email her at [shalece.nuttall@uvu.edu](mailto:shalece.nuttall@uvu.edu). To schedule an appointment, visit: <https://appointments.uvu.edu/shalece>.

**Scope of Practice and Career Opportunities:** Dental hygienists, under the supervision of licensed dentists, provide preventive dental care to patients. These services include, but are not limited to, dental prophylaxis and debridement, topical fluoride application, pit and fissure sealant placement, administration of local anesthetics and dental radiographs. Dental hygienists provide patient education or oral health care procedures. Dental hygienists work in private practice, as well as in school systems and public health agencies, Federal and State agencies, hospitals, nursing homes, for the World Health Organization and for foreign governments.

Some of the projected employment growth in this occupation is due to recovery from the COVID-19 recession that began in 2020. Demand for dental services will increase as the large baby-boom population ages and as people keep more of their original teeth than in previous generations. Studies linking oral health and general health, along with efforts to expand access to oral hygiene services, will continue to drive demand for preventive dental services, including those performed by hygienists. In addition, demand for dental hygienists is expected to grow as state laws increasingly allow dental hygienists to work at the top of their training. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/dental-hygienists.htm#tab-6>

The latest U.S. Department of Labor statistics state that:

1. Dental hygiene is projected to be one of the 30 fastest growing occupations
2. Population growth and greater retention of natural teeth will stimulate the demand for Dental Hygienists
3. Opportunities for part-time and flexible schedules are common
4. Employment of dental hygienists is projected to grow 11 percent from 2020 to 2030, faster than the average for all occupations. It is expected there will be a national demand for dental hygienists in the coming years. The job market in Utah has recently seen a growth in the need for dental hygienists.

**Current Employment Opportunities:** <https://www.dentalpost.net/dental-jobs/utah-dental-hygienist-jobs/>

**Salary Report:** <https://www.dentalpost.net/salary-survey/#all-positions>

**Bloodborne and Infectious Diseases:** Blood-borne pathogen exposures are treated according to guidelines from the U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration. UVUDH follows the CDC regarding infectious diseases. Reference: U.S. Department of labor, Occupational Safety & Health Administration. Bloodborne Pathogens and Needle stick Prevention <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/bloodbornepathogens/>

### **Essential Program Requirements for Dental Hygiene Students**

Utah Valley University is committed to the principle of diversity. All admission policies shall be applied without regard to race, color, ethnic background, national origin, religion, creed, age, citizenship, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status, or gender. In that spirit, admission to the UVUDH program is open to qualified individuals in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

UVUDH recognizes that the award of an AAS of Dental Hygiene degree carries with it, the full authority of the institution and communicates to those who might seek the services of the bearer that he or she is competent to practice dental hygiene. The AAS degree certifies that, upon licensure, the graduate is prepared to practice all disciplines of the dental hygiene profession. This requires that the student acquire cognitive and technical skills and attitudes determined by the faculty as requisite for the practice of dental hygiene with all of its patient responsibilities. The University recognizes the unique cognitive, technical and attitudinal aspects of the curriculum. Students must possess the skills and abilities that will allow them to successfully complete the course of study and receive the full benefit of the educational program. The student is required to direct or perform treatment on the patients of the University as part of the curriculum. The University has responsibility for ensuring the safety of patients and student clinicians. This includes the completion of treatment safely and within a reasonable amount of time. The student must be able to meet or perform the following essential functions with or without accommodation:

Issue	Standard	Example
Occupational Exposure	The Dental hygiene student may be exposed to communicable diseases, body fluids, toxic substances, latex, and medicinal preparations. Students shall use appropriate precautions at all times.	Provide care, using standard precautions, for a client/patient with a communicable disease.
Communication	Written, verbal, & auditory communication skills to permit effective interaction with others.	Communicate with staff members, patients, and other students while wearing high filtration face masks. Ascertain medical/dental history information. Monitor patient needs during treatment. Provide individualized home care instructions.
Visual	Visual acuity sufficient to read medical information and assess dental conditions and treatment.	Annotate chart entries on paper and/or computerized dental records. Assess intra oral conditions. Interpret dental radiographs.
Mobility	Sufficient mobility to maneuver in small areas.	Access patient within confines of dental operatory and radiographic room, which involves a variety of sitting & standing positions, including bending, twisting, and reaching. Access darkroom for development of radiographs.
Motor Skills	Fine and gross motor skills sufficient to perform complex psychomotor tasks.	Explore and scale teeth with small diameter instruments. Manipulate power-driven instruments. Place intra oral dental radiographs.
Cognitive/Critical Thinking	Cognitive ability sufficient to recognize deviations from normal, co-diagnose, and plan treatment.	Respond quickly & appropriately to medical emergencies. Utilize assessment information to identify pathology, individualize treatment, and suggest referral when necessary.
Behavioral Skills	Students must possess the emotional health required for full utilization of intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities attendant to the care of patients and the development of mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients.	Understand that any DH program is rigorous and designed to develop the capabilities to function in a busy and demanding practice setting.