

DENTAL HYGIENE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM (ONLINE)

The Bachelor of Science Degree Completion (BSDC) Program is designed to allow a registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) the opportunity to earn a baccalaureate degree in the field. Dental hygienists with baccalaureate degrees may be employed in community college or university settings as teachers, public health departments or other health care facilities, oral health care businesses, and other similar job opportunities. Salaries vary, depending on the career choice.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The BSDC online program is designed to be completed by the practicing dental hygienist and may be taken on a part-time schedule. As all didactic course work is offered electronically, applicants are encouraged to give careful consideration to computer and time management skills prior to applying for this program.

Note: BSDC students who intend to become a clinical dental hygiene educator are required to participate in a clinical teaching practicum course that is located on-site at a CODA-accredited program of dental hygiene.

APPLICATION AND ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A total of 123 credit hours are required to earn a Bachelor of Science Degree in Dental Hygiene, including Texas Core Curriculum courses, program prerequisites, entry-level dental hygiene courses, and advanced dental hygiene major courses.

PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

- Graduation from an ADA/CODA-accredited dental hygiene program in the U.S. or Canada. (All credits earned in the entry program will be accepted toward BS requirements)

- An active license as a Registered Dental Hygienist
- A grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 for all college courses taken
- Completion of a 3-credit hour computer science course and 3 credit hour statistics course (may be part of Texas Core Curriculum)
- Completion of the Texas Core Curriculum requirements

In addition to the academic admission requirements, non-academic factors may be considered when selecting students to the BSDC program. A maximum of twelve students may be admitted to the bachelor's degree completion program each year.

To be considered, applicants must meet all qualifications listed above and apply by completing the Texas Common Application and the Supplemental Application, submit letters of recommendation, pay fees and submit official transcripts to the Application Center by **January 15**. Completed applications will be reviewed by the Admissions Committee for final acceptance and enrollment for fall entry.

Note: Up to 12 credit hours may be in progress prior to admittance but must be completed and transcripts submitted to the Application Center by June 1.



BS DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM CURRICULUM

Students who are graduates of the School of Health Professions Dental Hygiene certificate program will take 6-9 credit hours of dental hygiene courses at the Health Science Center to complete the required 123 credit hours. The BSDC program director will evaluate the number of hours required for each returning student.

Registered Dental Hygienists who are *not* graduates of the UTHSCSA Dental Hygiene certificate program are required to take a minimum of 30 semester credit hours to earn the bachelor's degree. Students should assess career goals and choose courses from the list below:

BSDC Elective Courses	Credit Hours
DENH 3007 - Preclinical Teaching Practicum	4.0*
DENH 4111 - Current Issues in Dental Hygiene	3.0
DENH 3015 - Public Health Practicum	4.0*
DENH 3017 - Clinical Teaching Practicum	4.0*
DENH 4007 - Clinical Administration Practicum	4.0*
DENH 4018 - Introduction to Research	3.0
DENH 4023 - Special Topics	1.0-3.0
DENH 4024 - Concepts and Practice in Teaching	3.0
DENH 4025 – Advanced Periodontics	3.0
DENH 4091 - Independent Study	1.0-3.0**
DENH 4103 – Creating Healthier Communities	3.0
DENH 4415 - Advanced Public Health Practicum	4.0
Electives are offered by other programs at the Health Science Center.	12

*Practicum courses require face-to-face time in a clinic near your location. These are often at accredited dental hygiene schools or public health clinics.

**May be repeated for one to three credit hours, depending on student's course of study.



PROGRAM COSTS

Tuition and required fees for the Dental Hygiene Degree Completion program are detailed in the *HSC Catalog*. In addition to the required tuition and fees of approximately \$1,804 (in-state students), costs for other expenses such as textbooks and course manuals are approximately \$265. There is no on-campus housing at the HSC and program expenses do not reflect day-to-day living expenses.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions about prerequisite courses, waivers, equivalencies and transcript evaluations:

School of Health Professions Welcome Center

E-mail: SHPwelcome@uthscsa.edu

Phone: 210-567-8744 or toll free 1-866-802-6288

<http://SHPwelcome.uthscsa.edu>

Department of Dental Hygiene

(210) 567-8820

<http://www.uthscsa.edu/shp/dh/>

Office of Student Services Application Center

E-mail: AppCenter@uthscsa.edu

Phone: 210-567-2660

http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/prospects_application_center.aspx